

Saturday Gazette.

Bloomfield and Montclair, N. J.

Wm. P. LYON, Editor and Proprietor.

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OUR PRINCIPAL OFFICE is next door to the Post Office in Bloomfield.

The Saturday Gazette.

BLOOMFIELD AND MONTCLAIR.

BELLEVILLE, CALDWELL AND VERONA.

An independent weekly journal of LITERATURE, EDUCATION, POLITICS, GENERAL NEWS and LOCAL INTERESTS.

All public and local questions, including political and social, sanitary and reformatory, educational and industrial topics will be clearly presented and fully and fairly discussed.

It is intended and expected to make it not only readable and interesting to the general reader, but of special value to citizens of the county and of real importance to every resident of Bloomfield, Montclair Caldwell, Belleville and Verona.

Nothing will be admitted to its columns that is unworthy of cordial welcome to every family circle.

Settled Clergymen in the county and all Public School Teachers in the county will receive the paper gratuitously by sending their address.

To ADVERTISERS it should prove a valuable medium. Our circulation extends to every part of Essex county, and considerably elsewhere.

SUBSCRIPTIONS and ADVERTISEMENTS will be received and forwarded by the Postmaster, also at our office in Bloomfield, or may be addressed by mail, to Wm. P. LYON, Editor, and Proprietor, Bloomfield, N. J.

1776
4th JULY.
1874.THE ORIGINAL AMERICAN PLAT-
FORM.
FROM THE DECLARATION OF INDEPEND-
ENCE.

JULY 4, 1776.

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect for the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the cause which impels them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident—that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such is the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former system of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states."

This Declaration of principles and sentiments is then followed by a strong Bill of Indictment against George the Third, King of Great Britain, solemnly charging him, under twenty-seven distinct specifications, of outrages such as no people with any pretensions to liberty and manhood could be justified in submitting to; and a complaint and warning against the British people, painfully concluding with the following sentence:

"We must therefore acquiesce in the necessity which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war—in peace, friends."

This immortal document closes with the following declaration of the high purpose, firm resolve, and holy trust which gave birth and vigor to our favored country:

"We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Among the fifty-six intrepid signers of this bold and determined Platform the five immortal names from our own State will ever be cherished by every true Jerseyman.

They are—RICHARD STOCKTON, JOHN WITHERSPOON, FRANCIS HOPKINSON, JOHN HART, ABRAHAM CLARK.

Our country then embraced only 1

thirteen original patriotic States, poorly developed, with a population of only three million souls. During the century now nearly closed, it will have expanded in number of States to thirty-nine, three times the original number and area, and have swelled in population to nearly forty-five millions.

Its agricultural, manufacturing and commercial industries have developed marvelously; and its wealth has increased in proportion.

But the enlargement of territory, the multiplication of States, the enormous increase of population, and the augmentation of wealth, were not the objects for which our forefathers abandoned their homes, country and friends; such motives could not have reconciled them to the trials and privations, exposures and sufferings of a pioneer life, and to the bloody sacrifices in a long and unequal struggle with the marauding hosts of despotic power. Their pursuit was happiness, with the unalienable rights of life and liberty.

They intensely desired and inexorably demanded a government of their own choosing, with equal rights and privileges, legally secured, and impartially administered. The rectitude of their intentions justified their reliance on Divine Providence, and their mutual pledge to each other of life, fortune and honor, not only vindicated their sincerity, but also made them valiant and irrepressible.

They came out of the long war victory. Peace and independence were conquered and were assured.

Now it is well for us to consider what was accomplished. Other nations have been embroiled in wars, have fought and bled, and have conquered a peace. Italy did so, so did Germany. But how different the liberty of those peoples, from that which our citizens enjoy.

According to the American standard the *elective franchise* (or right of voting) is the first test of the liberty of the people. It is that which constitutes the *citizen*, identifying him with his government in voice and heart. *Free speech and a free press*, form another test of liberty. They unfetter the mind, ennable the subject, and justify the mutual confidence of Ruler and citizen.

Now if these tests be applied, and the comparison be made between, even the two countries above named and the United States, and how resplendent do our liberties shine!

In Italy, notwithstanding the large liberty that nation enjoys in many respects, the right to vote has by no means as yet been granted to the people. We have good authority for saying that there are members of the Chamber of Deputies at whose election not more than twenty or thirty votes in all were cast! The so-called popular elections are little more than hollow shams. In her most recent electoral lists only 528,932 names were written in a population of nearly 27,000,000! Which is less than two per cent of the population.

Contrast this with the suffrage in our country. In the United States, with a population of 40,000,000, the *actual vote polled* in the general election of 1872 was 6,431,257, which fell far below the number of those who had the right to vote but who, from one cause and another, could not or did not exercise it. Making due allowance for the infirm, the sick, the absent, the indifferent and we suppose the percentage of those enjoying the right of suffrage in this country to be at least **NINE TIMES GREATER** than in Italy. The comparison of freedom of speech would doubtless exhibit a more favorable aspect still for this country.

Without having data in respect to Germany and other countries at our command just now, we conclude that none of the countries of Continental Europe can make any just pretensions to rights of speech and of suffrage at all comparable to that which is enjoyed by every citizen in this favored land. The following paragraph recently dispatched by cable is apposite to our argument:

"Liberty of speech is not one of the blessings now enjoyed by Germany. A sentence of imprisonment for a year and a half has been passed upon a Deputy, Herr Mos, for certain speeches delivered by him at some meeting of working men. The most serious charge made against him was that he had denounced a standing army."

This priceless boon of liberty and equal rights we have inherited from a noble ancestry, and if we mean to hand this rich legacy down to future generations, we must teach its value to our children and see that they understand and cherish it as a gift from heaven, entrusted to our keeping for the benefit of the human race, and more precious than life itself.

BRAZIL—Brazil is rapidly taking the lead of all the States in South America. The country is full of engineers, manufacturers, agriculturists, merchants and traders, drawn thither by the manifold attractions offered to them in their respective spheres by the enterprise of the sovereign and a sympathizing nation. In all geographical and topographical publications Brazil is a standing theme, and new works from the pens of industrial and scientific men are continually leaving the press in various parts of the world. The empire is approaching political consolidation with great rapidity, and the national funds are regularly quoted on the London exchange.

Exports and imports are increasing in a surprising manner, and the attention of both Europe and America is being directed in an increased degree to this land, so highly gifted by nature. The greatest blot on the current history of the nation, in the form of human slavery, is destined soon to be removed, by the active intercession of the Emperor for its total abolition.

The Rev. Doctor and President also preached in the evening, by appointment, before the High School and in the presence of a large representation of all the churches of Montclair. His discourse was a lucid exposition of Psalm xix, 6—*The less*

FOURTH JULY ITEMS.

There is to be a formal celebration of the Fourth at Hackensack, Rev. Dr. Bartine is to deliver the Oration.

THE GREAT BRIDGE—over the Mississippi at the St. Louis is to be formally opened to day great pieces of fire works it is said, from three to four hundred feet long, will go off. They are to contain designs representing Washington, Missouri and Illinois shaking hands, flanked with the coat of arms of each State."

The East Orange Library Association have completed their arrangements for the celebration of our National Holidays. A band of music have been engaged and will perform selections of music at the Junction, beginning at 2 o'clock P. M., and lasting one hour. At 2 1/2 P. M., the following exercises will take place at the Library rooms, National Hall, corner Main and Grove streets.

National Airs.....Military Band

Prayer.....Rev. J. L. Danner

Reading of a portion of the Declaration of Independence.....Prof. C. M. Davis

Music.....Band

Oration.....Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake

Music.....Band

Benediction.....Rev. W. D. Hedden

After the above exercises the band will give a concert until 6 P. M.

Verona has a celebration on the Fourth as mentioned in our last week's issue.

For the Saturday Gazette.

NEGLECTED.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—I beg a small space

in your columns to call the attention

of the public to my melancholy fate.

It is hard in one's old age to be de-

served by his friends and handed over

to the neglect and contumely of an un-

appreciative public.

Many years ago I was very popu-

lar—children looked forward to my

coming with joyful anticipation and

those more advanced in life were

glad at my appearing. But now the

ladies are nervous and request me to

be silent—the men whisper of Port-

land and Chicago, and high rate of

insurance, and even the children cast

me aside for more recently formed

acquaintances. And sirs, what are we

to come to? Where will we find our

boasted civilization? The Eagle

from her mountain peak cries before

The *effete despotisms of Europe* are

looking with joy to see my fall! Independ-

ence day will dawn in vain when I am

gone.

Speak out, Messrs. Editors and save us

from the overhanging fate and receive the

thanks of your old friend, through fire

C. R. ACKER.

This is the 19th birth-day of Miss Nel-

lie Grant, now Mrs. Sartoris.

OUR CHURCHES LAST SUNDAY.

Rev. D. D. on Fremont and Franklin Streets, Bloomfield, exchanged pulpits on Sunday morning last, Rev. Dr. Kenne

dy officiating in the Baptist Church and Rev. Dr. Stubbart in Weminster.

Rev. Dr. Stubbart has a programme of six sermons for Sunday evenings in the

Baptist church, on "Foot Prints of Jesus,"

(1) In Bethlehem; (2) In the Temple in

His Infancy; (3) In Galilee in His Child-

hood; (4) In the Temple among the

Learned; (5) In Nazareth; (6) In the

waters of the Jordan. The first two have

been delivered, the third will be given on

the 6th inst. to be followed in order by the

others on successive Sunday evenings.

In Bloomfield on Sunday morning Rev.

Mr. Mudge of Yonkers, N. Y., preached on

Rev. v., 9, presenting Christ as the only

solution of the mystery of life, and the

only hope of man's redemption, exalts

and blesses.

It was a fine sermon abounding in eloquent passages and pre-

senting the most encouraging hopes for the

disciple of Jesus. He also preached in

the evening.

The Children's Day at the Methodist

church in Bloomfield last Sunday was one

of unusual interest. A visitor, an intelligent

Sunday School man, who was there

in the morning, speaks of Rev. Mr. Free-

man's address as the best thing of the kind

he had ever heard. He also preached in

the evening.

Rev. Mr. Smith, of Mont

clair, presided in the afternoon.

The church was elaborately decorated

with flowers. It was a very enjoyable

time to that congregation and to all con-

nected with the Sunday School.

Rev. Dr. Campbell, President of Rut-

ger's College preached last Sunday morn-

ing in Dr. Berry's Church, Montclair. His

text was John iii., 3—*Except ye be born**again ye cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

A full house enjoyed the pleasure of listen-

ing to one of the most simple, clear, suc-

cinct, and impressive statements of the

very essence and substance of the Christian

doctrine of regeneration that was ever de-

livered, we fancy, in an extemporaneous

sermon of 25 minutes length. Faultless in

its delivery, it was evident from the

breathless attention of his congregation

that they were both delighted and edified.

The Rev. Doctor and President also

preached in the evening, by appointment,

before the High School and in the presence

of a large representation of all the churches

of Montclair. His discourse was a lucid